

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office action dated August 22, 2007, claims 1 – 3 were again rejected under 35 USC § 102 in view of US patent 6,224,018 to Hiestroza but claims 4 – 9 and 11 – 15 were deemed allowable if appropriately rewritten.

In response, Applicant has complied with all of the Examiner's directions and suggestions.

- Claim 1 has now been amended to incorporate all limitations of claims 2, 3 and 4 and claims 2, 3 and 4 have been cancelled.
- Claims 10 and 16 have been cancelled [claim 17 having been canceled previously].
- Claims 5 – 9 and 11 – 15 are now dependent upon amended claim 1, as suggested.
- Claim 18 has been added to combine the limitations of claim 11 with claim 1 as previously amended, in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and the below-provided remarks.

Petition is hereby made under 37 CFR 1.136(a) to extend the time for response to the Office Action of 11/22/07 to and through 1/22/08, comprising an extension of the shortened statutory period of two months.

At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any over payment to Deposit Account **50-3444** pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.25. Additionally, please charge any fees to Deposit Account **50-3444** under 37 C.F.R. 1.16, 1.17, 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21.

Respectfully submitted,

/mark a. wilson/

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